



COUNTY OF SOLANO

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Isabelle Voit
Chief Probation Officer

Joel Keller
Chief Deputy Probation Officer

July 3, 2007

David E. Power
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
Solano Superior Court
600 Union Ave.
Fairfield, CA 94533

Dear Judge Power:

Enclosed please find the Chief Probation Officer response to the 2006-2007 Grand Jury Report
Entitled: Solano County Probation Department Juvenile Detention & New Foundations
Facilities, dated May 25, 2007.

Sincerely,

Isabelle J. Voit
Chief Probation Officer
Solano County

cc: Grand Jury
Charlene Ping, Deputy CAO
Garry Ichikawa, Presiding Juvenile Court Judge

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Juvenile Detention & New Foundations Facilities

Issued May 25, 2007

Chief Probation Officer response to the Grand Jury Report:

Finding #1 – On the day of our visit both facilities appeared clean, neat, and well organized.

Recommendation #1 – Solano County Probation Department should continue to keep up the good work.

Probation's Response to Finding and Recommendation #1 – Concur

Finding #2 – On the day of our inspection, Juvenile Hall was overcrowded.

Recommendation #2 – Solano County Probation Department should review processes and procedures for all juvenile facilities they administer to avoid overcrowding.

Probation's Response to Finding and Recommendation #2 – Probation agrees with this finding and the recommendation has been implemented. Probation continually reviews processes and procedures to avoid overcrowding. A trend toward increased population was identified early in 2006. This trend continued reaching a peak in October 2006. Once it was determined that the increased population was a long term trend rather than a spike, the Department requested authorization from the Board of Supervisors to reopen the Challenge Unit. Authorization to open 20 beds was approved on February 27, 2007.

Finding #3 – Minors released to society are not tracked.

Probation's Response to Finding #3 – Probation disagrees partially. Solano County Probation currently collects substantial data for those minors participating in programs funded by grants such as the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA).

Recommendation #3 – Solano County Probation Department should track the success or failure of minors in order to measure the effectiveness of the programs they administer.

Probation's Response to Finding and Recommendation #3 – The recommendation has been implemented with regard to programs funded by grants such as JJCPA. With regard to other programs, the recommendation will be implemented by FY 2008-2009. The Department is currently working with other probation departments through the Chief Probation Officers of California to implement standardized outcome measures for juvenile and adult probation.